Leading sectors for South Carolina companies include: aircraft and parts; automotive parts and accessories; construction machinery; franchising; cosmetics and toiletries; information technology services; medical equipment; mining industry equipment; oil and gas field machinery; pollution control equipment; safety and security; and telecommunications parts and equipment.

It is planned that mission delegates will be in Brisbane for a few days at the commencement of the mission before moving on to other Australian cities. The mission is being promoted by the organisers as an opportunity to visit South Carolina's Sister State and will hopefully prompt other South Carolina officials to visit Queensland at that time to enable the development of commercial and other relationships.

The trade mission will coincide with Queensland Export Week. Delegates will be included in Export Week 2007 activities, making it a valuable opportunity to explore business links with Queensland.

Other Activities

The Honourable Judy Spence MP, Minister for Police and Corrective Services, visited South Carolina in 2007 accompanied by Frank Rockett, Director-General of Corrective Services, and Mr Bob Atkinson APM, Commissioner of Police. The delegation visited Charleston and Columbia for broad ranging meetings with some of South Carolina's prominent leaders and gained a broad appreciation of the Sister State relationship and discussed with their counterparts the similarities and differences between the judicial, legislative and governance systems in Queensland and South Carolina.

The Queensland delegation met with Senator John Drummond, President Pro Tempore Emeritus, South Carolina Senate; the Honorable Jean Toal, Chief Justice, South Carolina Supreme Court; Mr Joe E Taylor, Jr, Secretary of Commerce; Mr Jon Ozmint, Director, Department of Corrections; H. Dean Crisp, Columbia Chief of Police; Lindy Rinaldi, Chief of Police for the South Carolina State Ports Authority; Robert Stewart, Chief of the State Law Enforcement Division; John Durst, Honourary Ambassador for Queensland; Fred Monk, President of the South Carolina Export Consortium; Mr Mike LeFever of McAngus, Goudelock & Courie, LLC; and Mr Tom E. Persons, Sr, President and CEO of the South Carolina Technology Alliance.

Author Janette Turner Hospital was appointed as an Honorary Ambassador for Queensland in May 2004. Professor Turner Hospital, who grew up and taught in Queensland, is currently Carolina Distinguished Professor of English at the University of South Carolina. She also won a Queensland Premier's Literary Award in 2003 for her novel *Due Preparations for the Plague*.

The Richland County Public Library has established a sister library relationship with the Brisbane City Council Library Service. The partnership provides a forum for exchanging ideas and information on programs that could be expanded through joint efforts. One joint initiative, in conjunction with the Somerset County Council Libraries, Arts and Information Service in the United Kingdom, is the first 24 hour global reference service called "Answers Now-All the Time, Across the World" which went live in November 2002. To access the service, patrons can logon to one of the three libraries' web sites and are able to interact online, gaining access to information and resources 24 hours a day. (Source: International Collaborations, Trade and International Operations Division, Department of the Premier and Cabinet)